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(Classification)

They kidnapped von Brandenberg and brought him to Alexandria where he was murdered. Brandenberg was also repeatedly threatened, but he hopes that by disclosing the threats in the German press, he will be left alone.

"According to Brandenberg, the rift among the Germans in the M.E. has now assumed serious proportions. The Germans serving with Transjordan and Iraqi forces try to present themselves as professional soldiers with no interest in politics. They also try to disassociate themselves from the Gestapo-run German missions to Cairo and Damascus, which are led by such notorious war criminals as Rener and Skorzeny in Egypt and Rauff and Sawant in Syria.

"Skorzeny, now in charge of the German Mission to Egypt, has insulted General Farmbacher, formerly the nominal Chief of Mission. Farmbacher complained to Nagib, but Nagib took Skorzeny's side and General Farmbacher is leaving shortly for Germany, together with Generals von Hunsell and von Ravenstein.

"In their place, Skorzeny and Rener have recruited SS-Colonel Ernst Wilhelm Springer and Colonel Ernst Zolling. Zolling was chief of intelligence and security branches in Rommel's Afrika Korps. He is now Nagib's personal adviser on intelligence and security matters. Adenauer's Federal Government is also purposely helping to widen the growing rift among the Nazis in the Middle East, by announcing that all former Wehrmacht generals and colonels will be eligible for pensions, bonuses and posts in the new German Army if they return to Germany before December 31, 1953."

FOR THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, a.i.c

Milton Fried
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Attache

Copy to: Bonn

State Dept. review completed

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